

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. The Examiner alleges that the application contains inventions or groups of inventions that are distinct, and on that basis, the Examiner requires restriction to one of the following inventions:

Group I: claims 1-15, drawn to an apparatus for removing partially digested food;

Group II: claim 20, drawn to an apparatus for intestinal bypass; or


Group III: claims 16-19, drawn to a method of removing partially digested food.

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group III and claims 16-19. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected groups of inventions.

Favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's representative directly at (212) 969-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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